(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Review Committee has been engaged in obtaining information from various sources, including the State Governments.

American Pressure on India to SIGN NPT

307. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen press. reports highlighting renewed American pressure on India to sign NPT?

(b) if so, what diplomatic efforts have been made in cooperation with the members of NAM in general and SAARC in particular to evolve common policy on NPT?

(c) whether any diplomatic initiatives with the permanent members of the security council have been taken in this regard so far?

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether government have taken China into confidence on this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) India's consistant and principled position on the NPT is that it will not sign the NPT since it is a discriminatory treaty which creates a permanent division between the nuclear "haves" and "have-nots". India has reiterated this well known position in all relevant multilateral fora and during bilateral discussions with various countries including those which are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Set Back in INDO-US Relations

308. SHRIMATI CHANDRA-KALA PANDEY:
ŚHRI MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US relations have suffered any major set back recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Statement by Former Prime Minister of Quebec

309. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement by the former Prime Minister of Quebec that the recent referendum on the proposal for the independence of the province has been affected by votes cast by ethnic minorities;

(b) whether such a statement has created considerable apprehension in the minds of Indians settled in Canada; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Canadian authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Government do not consider it necessary to do so as the Government of Canada does not suport the statement. In fact, the statement of the former Premier of Quebec, Jacques Parizeau has been condemned by the Prime Minister of Canada, himself a Quebecker, and by other Provincial Premiers. The present Premier of

Quebec, Lucien Bouchard, who was in the forefront of the sovereigntist campaign, has stated that Mr. Parizeau's statement does not reflect what the sovereigntists think or the way they behave.

नॉन-ओ०वाई०टी० ''टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों का आबंटन

310. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या नई दिल्ली में ''जनपथ'' एक्सचेंज के ''नॉन-ओ०वाई०टी० श्रेणी के प्रतीक्षारत सभी आवेदकों को अप्रैल, 1996 तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन उपलब्ध हो सकेंगे; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम): (क) जी हां, जनपथ एक्सचेंज, नई दिल्ली में नॉन ओ०वाई०टी० श्रेणी के प्रतीक्षारत सभी आवेदकों को अप्रैल, 1996 तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन प्रदान करने हेतु योजनाएं बनाई जा चुकी हैं। इस लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति के लिये सभी प्रयास किए जाएंगे।

(ख) उपरोक्त (क) को देखते हुए लागू नहीं होता।

पंजाब में स्थापित खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग

311. **श्री इकबाल सिंह:** क्या **खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान पंजाब राज्य में कितने खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग स्थापित किए गए हैं;

(ख) वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान, राज्य में कितने खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग स्थापित किए जाने हैं;

(ग) इन उद्योगों में कितनी पूंजी का निवेश किया गया है अथवा करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(घ) इन उद्योगों में कितने लोगों को रोजगार मिला हुआ है?

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०पी० सिंह देव): (क) से (घ) उदारीकरण के बाद से लेकर अक्तूबर, 1995 तक पंजाब राज्य के लिए लगभग 0.71 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने वाले 3242 करोड़ रु० के निवेश वाले 280 औद्योगिक उद्यमी ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुए हैं। इनके अतिरिक्त, पंजाब राज्य में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की स्थापना के लिए 515 करोड़ रु० के निवेश वाले और लगभग 0.28 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने वाले 100% निर्यातोन्मुखी/संयुक्त उद्यम/औद्योगिक लाइसेंस यूनिटों के लिए 17 प्रस्ताव अनुमोदित किए गए हैं। इनमें से 426 करोड़ रु० के निवेश वाले और लगभग 0.37 लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने वाली 28 खाद्य प्रसंस्करण इकाइयां अब तक पंजाब राज्य में कार्यान्वित की जा चुकी हैं। सामान्यतः परियोजना के कार्यान्वयन में 2-3 साल लगते हैं।

Border Dispute Between Maharashtra and Karnataka

312. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Maharashtra had met the Prime Minister and Home Minister in regard to Maharashtra Karnataka Border dispute; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to solve the border dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON): (a) and (b) The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka has been pending eversince the reorganisation of States in 1956. The Government of India has appointed the Mahajan Commission to look into this issue and it gave its recommendations in 1967 which were accepted by Karnataka in toto whereas the Government of Maharashtra rejected them. The differences are persisting.

The Government of India is of the view that the dispute has to be resolved primarily by the two State Governments concerned through discussions and mutual accommodation and it would be glad to render necessary assistance to the State Governments concerned in this regard.